

but as part of the regime of lavish care in which it basked it had been taken outside during hot days when no doubt eggs were deposited on it.

One of the larvae transformed itself to a specimen of *Epiphyas postvittana* in mid-October. It may be thought that the larva had suffered no ill effects from its noxious foodplant, but it may be observed that the progression from soft to hard drugs was demonstrated in that it died sniffing ammonia.— TONY PICKLES, 2a Park Avenue, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9GX.

### Another unusual foodplant record

Tony Pickles' observation, above, of *Epiphyas postvittana* (Walker) larvae found on hemp *Cannabis sativa* prompts me to recall that during my student years I too found a plant that was being used by Lepidoptera larvae. In this case it was another tortricid, *Cacoecimorpha pronubana* (Hb.). For reasons which readers may speculate upon freely, my memory of the event is somewhat hazy, but I do recall finding at least three or four larvae on the young tips of a plant that was evidently grown indoors from seed and which attained a height of over three metres by the end of that summer!

There does not seem to be any published reference to *Cannabis sativa* as a foodplant of British Lepidoptera until now and I wonder if there are further records that might now be usefully listed in these pages. Unlike Tony, however, I can not support the notion of the progression from this to harder drugs, since my moths attained a ripe old age without succumbing to any other temptation.— COLIN W. PLANT, 14 West Road, Bishops Stortford, Hertfordshire CM23 3QP.

### Some moths new to Monmouthshire

During June 1999, Kevin Dupe, Project Officer for *Community Action for Wildlife in Newport* (CAWN), sent me a number of moth specimens for identification. Amongst these were two tortricids of particular interest since they are not listed in G. A. Neil Horton's book *Monmouthshire Lepidoptera – the butterflies and moths of Gwent* (1994. Comma International Biological Systems) and appear to be new records for Vice-county 50. These were *Hysterosia inopiana* (Haw.) and the highly distinctive *Cacoecimorpha pronubana* (Hb.).

Kevin netted a single example of *C. pronubana* during the day on 5 June 1999 on the west bank of the River Usk, just to the north of Newport's most notable landmark, the Transporter Bridge, within one kilometre of the city centre. According to Bradley *et al* (1973. *British Tortricoid Moths* 112-113), the species was first recorded as British in Sussex in 1905 and subsequently spread westwards to colonise most of southern England. Since it was noted in Glamorgan as long ago as 1940 it was surely only a matter of time before it was reported from the more easterly county of Monmouthshire.

Several individuals of *Hysterosia inopiana* were captured on the east bank of the River Usk on 23 June 1999 about two kilometres north of Uskmouth. Again, this species is found in Glamorgan and, according to Bradley *et al*, also in Cardiganshire.